

Q. # 1053

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Japan's Second Offer (Handed by Ambassador SHIGEMITSU to CHURCHILL)

His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs acknowledges the receipt of the note of His Britannic Majesty's Prime Minister, dated February 24, 1941, and takes pleasure in apprising the latter that the statement and remarks contained therein have been duly noted.

The Foreign Minister trusts that Mr. Churchill is not necessarily expecting observations to be made upon them. He wishes, however, to take advantage of the opportunity to state that no hint whatever of his readiness to act as a mediator between the actual belligerents was intended to be conveyed in his memorandum addressed to His Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, nor did he imagine for a moment any possibility of such a hint being read in any part of the text. The Foreign Minister took occasion in his Memorandum to refer to the mediation now taking place in Tokyo as Mr. Eden had made allusions to it and incidentally took the liberty of stating in a general and abstract manner the views he has always cherished, in order to make clear the aspiration and attitude of his country concerning the problem of peace or the recovery of normal conditions throughout the world.

The Foreign Minister believes that it will not be entirely out of place to reiterate what he has said on more than one occasion in reference to the Tripartite Pact, inasmuch as this matter was touched upon by Mr. Eden in his conversation with Ambassador Shigemitsu. The Tripartite Pact was concluded as, and remains, a peace pact in the sense that it was entered into largely with a view to preventing a third Power from participating in the European war or Sino-Japanese conflict, thus limiting the participants and dimensions of the war and also to bringing about peace at the earliest possible date. Japan's ideals were epitomized in the preamble of the Pact, and it is needless to say that Japan, remaining absolutely loyal to the aims and ideals enunciated, will always find herself standing by her allies in carrying out her duty under the Tripartite Pact.

The Foreign Minister would equally deplore and regret, if by any untoward circumstances, Great Britain and this country were to become embroiled, not only because of the recollection of the years during which the two countries were united in alliance, but also because such a tragic eventuality would be fraught with the danger of destroying modern civilization to the undoing of the best part of humanity.

February 27, 1941.

C E R T I F I C A T E

J.D.C. No. _____
I.P.S. No. 1339A (7)

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI Kaoru hereby certify that I am officially connected with the Japanese Government in the following capacity: Chief of the Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office ----- and that as such official I have custody of the document hereto attached consisting of 3 pages, dated 27 Feb., 1941, and described as follows: JAPAN'S SECOND OFFER (HANDED BY AMBASSADOR SHIGEMITSU TO CHURCHILL). -----

I further certify that the attached record and document is an official document of the Japanese Government, and that it is part of the official archives and files of the following named ministry or department (specifying also the file number or citation, if any, or any other official designation of the regular location of the document in the archives or files): Foreign Ministry -----

Signed at Tokyo on this
23rd day of Sept. 1946.

/s/ K. Hayashi
Signature of Official
SEAL
Chief, Archives Sect
Official Capacity

Witness: /s/ Nagaharu Odo

Statement of Official Procurement

I, Richard H. Larsh, hereby certify that I am associated with the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, and that the above described document was obtained by me from the above signed official of the Japanese Government in the conduct of my official business.

Signed at Tokyo on this
25 day of September 1946.

/s/ Richard H. Larsh
NAME

Witness: /s/ T/L T. Toguchi

Investigation Division I.P.S.
Official Capacity

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六七八九〇五

第二次我方申入（三月四日眞光大使「テ
ヤ！テル」ニ手交）

日本帝国外務大臣ハ英國總理大臣ノ一九四一年二
月二十四日附「ノート」ノ受領ヲ確認シ英國總理
大臣ニ對シ右「ノート」ニ包含セラレタル聲明及
言明ハ充分ニ「ノート」セラレタル旨通報スルヲ
欣幸トス

外務大臣ハ「ヤ！テル」氏ハ必スシモ其ノ聲明
及言明ニ鑑シ意見ノ述ヘラルゝコトヲ期待シ居ラ
サルモノト信ス

然シ乍ラ外務大臣ハ此ノ機會ヲ利用シ英國外務大
臣ニ宛テラレタル真ノ覺書ニ於テハ現實ノ交戰區
間ノ調停者タルノ用意アル旨何等ノ暗示ヲ與フル
ノ意圖無カリシコト、將又「テキハト」ノ如何ナ
ル部分ヨリモ斯カル暗示カ得ラルノ可能性アリ
トハ既時モ想像セサリシコトヲ謂ハント欲ス。外
務大臣ハ「イーテン」氏カ同問題ニ言及セラレタ
ルニ付其ノ覺書ニ於テ目下東京ニ於テ開催中ノ調
停ニ言及セル次第ニテ旦倅々一概的且抽象的ナル
方法ニ於テ平和問題若クハ世界ヲ通スル正常狀態
ノ回復ニ臻スル當國ノ抱負及態度ヲ明瞭ナラシム
ル爲其ノ常ニ抱懐スル見解ヲ述ヘタルモノナリ
外務大臣ハ「イーテン」氏カ眞光大使トノ會議ニ

於テ之ニ獨レラレタカル以テ、三國條約ニ關シ其ノ一度ナラス觸ヘルコトヲ反覆スルハ全ク場所ヲ
奪サカルモノニハ非サカルキコトヲ信ス。三國條約
ハ大体ニ於テ第三國ノ歐洲取爭若クハ日支紛争ニ
參加スルヲ歎止シ禁クシテ取爭ノ參加者及範囲ヲ
局限シ且量モ早目ニ平和ヲ招來スルコトヲ目的ト
シテ締結セラレタル意図ニ於テ平和條約トシテ結
ハレタルモノニシテ現在モ亦然リ。日本ノ理想ハ
右條約ノ前文中ニ嘗証セラレタル所ニシテ日本ハ
宣明セラレタル目的及理想ニ對シ絕對ニ忠實ニシ
テ三國條約ニ基ク謀務ノ施行ニ付帶ニ其ノ同盟國
ノ側ニ立ツヘキハ言ヲ俟クス外務大臣ハ著シ何等
不幸ナル狀況ニ依リ英國ト當國方戰爭ニ備込マル
ルトセハ同様ニ之ヲ備與シ過慮トスヘシ、右ハ單
ニ兩國方同盟ニ結合セラレ居リタル時代ヲ回顧ス
ルカ故ノミナラス又斯カル悲劇的出来事ハ近代文
明ヲ破壊シ人道ノ大部分ヲ破滅セシムルノ危険ニ
充テ居ルヘケレハナリ。

一九四一年二月二十七日

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證 明 書

「ワシントン」文書局 第 一號
國際檢察部 第二三三九四（七）號

記録及び公正ニ關スル證明

余、本署ハ余方下記ノ實情ニ於テ、即チ外務省文
書課長トシテ、日本政府ト公的關係ニ在ルモノナ
ルコト、並ニ該官吏トシテ余方此ニ添附セラレタ
ル、三頁ヨリ威ル、千九百四十一年ノ昭和十六年
／二月二十七日附、下記題名、即チ「チャーチル」
首相ヘ傳達手交ノ件ノ文書ノ保管ニ任ジ居ルコト
ヲ茲ニ證明ス。

余ハ更ニ添附ノ記録及び文書カ日本政府ノ公式
ナルコト、並ニ右方下記右端ノ公文ハ部局ノ公式
書類及び該ノ一部ナルコトヲ證明ス。（若シアラバ
該書類又ハ引用、其ノ他公式書類又ハ該ニ於ケル該文書ノ成認所
在ノ公式名稱ヲ示記スベシ）

千九百四十六年／昭和二十一年／九月廿三日

東京ニ於テ署名

當該官吏右端　余　母

右ノ者ノ公的實情　外務省文書課長

證人　尾戸長喜

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公式入手ニ關スル證明

余、 RICHARD H. LARSH ハ、余方聯合國最高指揮官總司令部ニ關係アルモノナルコト、茲ニ上記題名ノ文書ハ余方公海上、日本政府ノ上記署名官吏ヨリ入手シタルモノナルコトヲ茲ニ證明ス。

一千九百四十六年／昭和二十二年／九月二十日

東原ニ於テ署名
氏 公 期 RICHARD H. LARSH
右者、公函貳份 議事局調査部
證 人 F. TOGUCHI